

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

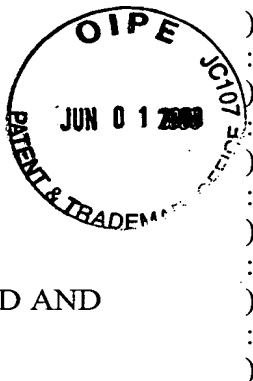
In re Patent Application of

Masayuki AZUMA et al.

Application No.: 09/199,198

Filed: November 25, 1998

For: ALIGNMENT METHOD AND  
APPARATUS



Group Art Unit: 3723

Examiner: T. Eley

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 30, 2000.

*R.M. McManus*  
R.M. McManus

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is presented in response to the March 1, 2000, Office Action, in connection with the above-captioned patent application.

In the Title:

Please amend the title to read: --HIGH SPEED METHOD OF ALIGNING CUTTING LINES OF A WORKPIECE USING PATTERNS--.

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) A method of aligning cutting lines of a workpiece, which depend on patterns, [such as ICs,] with a pair of cutting blades provided at a pair of cutting blade units provided with motors for rotating said pair of cutting blades, the alignment being performed when said pair of cutting blade units cuts said workpiece, said alignment method comprising the steps of:

[previously] registering reference patterns at at least one point of low magnification and one point of high magnification on said workpiece located at a preset position;

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